

## Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 DPW-01 SR-02 ORM-03 RSR-01

/144 W

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P R 200756 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3890

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USUN NY 1521

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 4648

E. O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK, BG

SUBJ: INDO- BANGLADESH DECLARATION

REF : NEW DELHI 4647

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY JOINT SECRETARY FOR PAKISTAN, ASHOK CHIB,  
CALLED IN POLITICAL COUNSELOR APRIL 19 TO REVIEW JOINT INDO-  
BANGLADESH DECLARATION. IN SUBSTANCE THE BRIEFING ESSENTIALLY  
REPEATED ALL INDIAN VIEWS ON THE DECLARATION DESCRIBED IN THE REFTEL.

2. CHIB DID MENTION FOR THE FIRST TIME A SECRET LETTER DATED  
AUGUST 31, 1972 SIGNED JOINTLY BY PAKISTAN FOREIGN MINISTER AZIZ  
AHMED AND MR S. GANDHI'S THEN PRIVATE SECRETARY N HAKSAR IN  
WHICH THE PAKISTANIS " TOOK NOTE" OF THE INDIAN VIEW THAT TRIPARTITE  
DISCUSSIONS ( AND THUS PAKISTANI RECOGNITION OF BANGLADESH) WOULD  
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BE NECESSARY TO RESOLVE SOME OF THE KEY ISSUES, INCLUDING POW'S , AND AGREED TO TAKE RECOGNITION UNDER SERIOUS DISCUSSION. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT THE SWISS AMBASSADOR TO INDIA, WHO WAS IN ISLAMABAD LAST WEEK, HAD BEEN TOLD BY AZIZ AHMED THAT THE PAKISTANIS CONTINUED TO HOPE THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE BANGLADESH. DESPITE ALL THIS, PAKISTAN HAD STILL NOT RECOGNIZED. INDIA THOUGHT IT A MAJOR STEP FORWARD THAT THE CURRENT DECLARATION PUT THE ISSUE OF RECOGNITION ASIDE AND FOCUSED ON THE RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS OF PEOPLE IN ALL THREE COUNTRIES. HE OBSERVED THIS HAD BEEN POSSIBLE FOR BANGLADESH LARGEY BECAUSE IT WAS NOW RECOGNIZED BY MOST OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD AND RECOGNITION BY PAKISTAN NO LONGER SEEMED SO CRITICAL.

3. CHIB SAID INDIA DID NOT YET HAVE ANY SECRET UNDERSTANDINGS WITH BANGLADESH ON HOW THESE TRIALS WOULD BE CONDUCTED. HE EMPHASIZED, AS HAD OTHER INDIAN OFFICIALS, THAT THE DECLARATION WAS NOT NEGOTIABLE

IN THE SENSE THAT PAKISTAN COULD PICK THOSE ELEMENTS IT LIKED OUT OF THE DECLARATION AND DISREGARD THE REST. IF PAKISTAN AGREED IN PRINCIPLE

HOWEVER, SPECIFIC MODALITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT WOULD BE OPEN TO NEGOTIATION.  
MOYNIHAN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**Draft Date:** 20 APR 1973  
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**Subject:** INDO- BANGLADESH DECLARATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, BG, IN, PK  
**To:** CALCUTTA  
COLOMBO  
DACCA  
ISLAMABAD  
KATHMANDU  
LONDON  
NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC  
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